

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: HOWLAND, Charles

Group Art Unit: 1774

Serial No. 10/021,851

Examiner: DIXON, Merrick L.

Filed: 12/13/2001

Dkt No: WM12-US

For: WEARABLE PROTECTIVE SYSTEM HAVING PROTECTIVE ELEMENTS

To: Mail Stop Petitions
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Fr:

24222

Dear Honorable Commissioner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants submit this statement, the attached 2 sheet(s) of form SB08A and/or SB08B, and 2 references and other information, in accordance to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97, and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) applicant has not transmitted herewith copies of cited U.S. Patents and U.S. patent application publications as the above application was filed after June 30, 2003. Please enter these patents into the file along with the following remarks.

Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4): This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

Information Cited: The Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application, the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the reference. As all the references listed on attached Form PTO-1449 are in English, no commentary is required.

Remarks: A copy of each reference, together with a listing on Form PTO-1449(modified), is submitted herewith. Applicants respectfully request that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 (modified) be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application; and

3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined in 37 C.F.R. §102.

Notwithstanding any statement by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

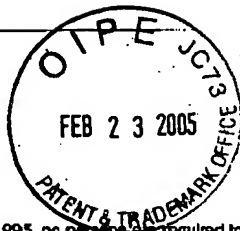
Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Vernon C. Maine, Reg. No. 37,389
Scott J. Asmus, Reg. No. 42,269
Andrew P. Cernota, Reg. No. 52,711
Attorneys/Agents for Applicant

Cus. No. 24222
Maine & Asmus
PO Box 3445
Nashua, NH 03061-3445
Tel. No. (603) 886-6100, Fax. No. (603) 886-4796
Info@maineandasmus.com



PTC/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/021,851
Filing Date	12/13/2001
First Named Inventor	HOWLAND, Charles A.
Art Unit	1774
Examiner Name	DIXON, Merrick L.
Attorney Docket Number	WM12-US

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

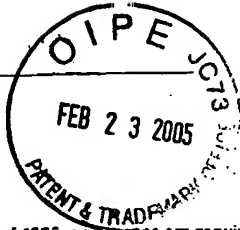
[illegible]

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initials If reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinda Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese parent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbol as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/CBB (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/021,851
		Filing Date	12/13/2001
		First Named Inventor	HOWLAND, Charles A.
		Art Unit	1774
		Examiner Name	DIXON, Merrick L.
Sheet 2	of 2	Attorney Docket Number	WM12-US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE, Supplementary Partial European Search Report, 10 Jan. 2005, 4 pages	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.